

REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action the claims were rejected as being obvious in view of the disclosure of the cited Carew publication. However, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the allowability of the newly amended claims for the reasons given herein.

In particular, in accordance with Applicant's invention as expressed in the amended claims, each of a plurality of fields in a form, onto which the form processing device of Claim 1 overlays data corresponding to the information stored in the field data file, is defined by field definition information (e.g., "PICTURE") which is used to determine whether each of the fields is defined as a field onto which an external file is to be overlaid. Furthermore, a storage location data (URL data) of an external file which is overlaid by the form processing device of Claim 1 is stored in a field data file. Accordingly, in the overlaying of information in Claim 1, the external file is downloaded on the basis of URL data stored in the field data file and the external file is overlaid onto the field . In this connection, if the user changes the read field data file, the external file to be overlaid can be changed based on URL data stored in the read field data file.

Referring now to the cited Carew publication, that reference discloses that URL data of List 236 (corresponding to the external file of the Claim 1) to be overlaid onto Listbox 230 (corresponding to the field of Claim 1) is described in HTML Doc 214 (corresponding to the field definition information of the Claim 1). Furthermore, Carew discloses overlaying means that reads List 236 on the basis of URL data described in the HTML Doc 214 and overlays List 236 onto Listbox 230. However, the cited Carew reference fails to disclose that the overlaying means downloads the external file on the basis of URL data stored in the field data file which is

different from the field definition information. That is, in the case of Carew, the same List 236 is always overlaid on the same Listbox 230.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the Carew reference fails to disclose the claimed overlaying of data as characterized above.

For these reasons Applicant solicits the issuance of a Notice of Allowance in this application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. A. Krause", is written over a horizontal line.

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